

## The BackPage

May/June 2012

### Vaccine Shipments

CDC will begin to track vaccine liability when vaccine is wasted due to incorrect provider address/shipping

hours. This liability will affect Virginia's budget. Notify the Order Center at 877-781-8832 **before**: your office hours change, your office will be closed for holidays/vacations, or your office relocates.

### VFC Resolutions

VFC resolutions passed by the ACIP form the basis for VFC program policies on vaccine availability and usage. They represent the rules that providers must follow for administering each specific vaccine under the VFC program. The resolutions can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/acip-vfc-resolutions.htm>

### Flu Update

Please remember that flu vaccine cannot be returned to McKesson until after the expiration date.

### Easy Compliance Improvements

In 2009, only eighty percent of VVFC providers had a "Do Not Disconnect" sign on circuit breakers powering vaccine storage units. In 2010 and 2011, VFC providers improved with ninety one percent of providers posting the warning on the breakers.

Now the leading compliance issues are: 1) documenting storage unit temperatures twice daily, and 2) having the correct Vaccine Information Statements (VISs) for patients. Only eighty eight percent of providers were in compliance in 2011 for these two standards.

Make improvements in these areas by logging temperatures twice daily. New VISs will be sent to you when you click on "get e-mail updates" at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm>  
Continue checking the breaker box signage periodically.

### Many VISs Have Changed

Eleven VISs have changed since March of 2011. Federal law mandates you must give your patients current VISs. Please make sure you are using the current VISs by searching <http://www.immunize.org/vis>

### Healthy People 2020

*Healthy People 2020* goals have been set to achieve and maintain effective vaccination coverage levels. As the pediatric immunization schedule becomes more complex, high vaccination coverage becomes more difficult to achieve for childhood measures.

According to 2010 National Immunization Survey data, Virginia's coverage is below the ninety percent *2020 goal* for 4 doses of DTaP, 3 doses of hep B, 4+ doses of PCV, 2 doses of hep A, and 2 or more doses of rotavirus vaccine at 24 months in children 19-35 months of age. For more on Healthy People 2020 go to <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/default.aspx>

### Rate Assessment Training

In Virginia about thirty five percent of VFC provider's visits will include an immunization coverage rate assessment. This assessment is an opportunity to help providers identify process improvements they can implement to affect coverage rates. Any provider who would like assistance learning how to do their own rate assessment may request it by contacting their VVFC consultant or calling 804-864-8055.

### Subscribe to the BackPage

To join the listserv for the BackPage, go to <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/immunization/VFC/vfcnewsbriefs.htm>. The link is at the top of the page.

### Gold Star Awards

#### Exceptional Immunization Rates

Appalachian Healthcare Associates, Norton

#### Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Burkeville Medical Group, Burkeville  
Capital Area Pediatrics-Countryside, Sterling  
Chippenhams Pediatric & Adolescent Med., Richmond  
Front Royal Pediatrics, Front Royal  
Loudoun Community Health Center, Leesburg  
MCVH Hayes E. Willis Health Center, Richmond  
Premier Pediatrics of Manassas, Manassas  
Skyline Family Practice, Front Royal  
Wellmont Lonesome Pine Hospital, Big Stone Gap

#### Process Improvement Using the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS)

The Practice of Dr. Gloti Rodriguez began using the state's immunization registry known as VIIS in May of 2009. Martha Rodriguez diligently entered complete immunization records into VIIS to obtain meaningful reminder/recall reports. The VIIS record is reconciled against the recall reports from insurers and Medicaid. Staff update patient's contact information at each visit to ensure successful reminder/recall and review each patient's vaccination record prior to each visit to prevent missed opportunities.

A ten percent increase in up-to-date rates for 4 DTaP, 3 HepB, 3 HIB, 1 MMR, and 3 Polio by 24 months of age has been reported each year since 2009 based on VIIS Assessment Summary Reports. Dr. Rodriguez hopes to continue realizing increased coverage rates as a result of implementing these "best practices".

